

BRAGNET #10  
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23 MAR 89

Welcome to yet another (almost) timely, fun-filled issue of the zine with very few games. It would have been three weeks more timely, but for what I hope is obvious and aesthetically pleasing (okay, so it's not -- I've been trying and crying, but I can't get this God-forsaken program to print what I've laid out, so...). I know I shouldn't have done it (and now, there's absolutely no doubt in my mind -- or what's left of it!@#&\*%\$\$\$), but when I found out I was going to get my hands on a desk-top publishing program, I lost control and gave in to my desire to publish a nicer looking rag. Soon, this zine will have a new name, an expanded subscription list, an even better look, game maps, full-color layouts, professional printing, slick paper, an international flavor, and a staff slightly larger than Time. Let me stress: I'm not out to compete with Diplomacy World; I'm out to bury it (Easy Larry-- April Fool's!).

I've been pleased/shocked by the response to my pleas for replacement/standby players. I'd like to heartily thank Bruce Linsey, John Daly, and Mike Gonsalves. If I've missed anyone, let me know so I can give you the credit you deserve. I'd also like to thank David Hood for his help and suggestions. Jimmy Williams is the only person I've known in the hobby who sends in more sets of orders for one game than Melinda Holley does for all of hers. Hmm, is this giving the other players too much info? HE'S NOT GOING TO NMR!

President's Day weekend, I attended Orocon, a wargame convention run 3 times a year by DTI (now a subsidiary of World Wide Wargames). The Diplomacy event was the smallest ever -- only 22 players. Fortunately, when the event judge failed to show up, one of the area's strongest players, Tim Moore, offered to step in and run the event.

Normally, our events are scored based on the final results of games (i.e. centers, place, etc.). However, Tim did not disclose his scoring system until after the first round. This discouraged the all too frequent practise of "helping" a player (i.e. caving in, and giving centers to aid him/her in the standings). Once the scoring system had been (more or less) revealed, we found out that it rewarded quick elimination of players, rapid growth, and (1) final position, with a bonus for being part of a "winning" (defined as 22 centers) alliance.

Unfortunately, the "mystery scoring system" had a negative impact on my first game. I was Russia and one of L.A.'s finest players, Randy Goldring, was Turkey. Randy and I allied and eliminated Austria by Spring '03, utilizing the finest in espionage techniques. We were cruising toward an automatic 2-way draw (Tim stopped games when an "alliance" reached 22 centers and -- this kind of sucks -- would not declare an intention to stab when Tim asked). However, Randy was confused by this "automatic draw" stuff and thought he had a chance for an 18 center win -- by stabbing me!

I knew the possibility was there, I just didn't want to believe he'd do it. A draw would put us both in the final. A win in the opening round is usually the kiss of death at these tournaments, so why worry? One good reason is that Randy is not only good, he's also extremely nervous and given to leaving the tournament (but not games!) early to go out with his current flame.

He stabbed and told me that he was sure he'd win. I managed to rally the rest of the board (even got England to back off and rush into the Ned) and

we stopped him at 15 centers. After a bit of coaxing, Randy granted me a two-way draw -- even though England had one more center than I did.

It was an impromptu "move" that really saved my butt in this game, and it had nothing to do with Turkey (Hold it! Do I really want all of you to know what a sleazeball I can be? Well, given the fact that I'm a bit behind schedule, I figure you all deserve a piece of my hide -- I offer this instead).

In the Fall '02 turn, I had dislodged the English fleet in Sweden. At the same time, he moved into St. Petersburg, forcing my army to flee. I had 3 possible retreats (Mos, Lvn, Fin) and he had just two (Fin and Bal). I knew that he did not want to retreat to the Baltic for two reasons: 1) it took a bit of pressure off of me; and 2) because his German ally wouldn't appreciate it a whole lot. I also figured that he wouldn't think I'd have the guts to retreat to Finland. So, naturally, I retreated to Fin, he retreated to Fin, and I got to rebuild the army in Moscow -- which is where I wanted it all along. ~~DOFS!~~ No, truthfully, I didn't have the guts to retreat to Fin, so I wrote "A STP r to MOS". However, just as he announced his retreat to Fin, I shouted, "Bingo!", and tossed both pieces into the box. There was so much commotion that no one saw me change my retreat order. That's my confession -- my first (and last) ever cheat during a game of Diplomacy.

Following the first round, Tim announced that the final round would be a start from scratch, no time limit, winner take all (\$50 in game credit) affair. Again, I drew Russia and was fortunate enough to win a concession. The last turn was great -- after fending off an attempted stab by Turkey and forcing him to puppet for me, I stabbed England just as he stabbed France. But the game had been so tumultuous, I was more than pleased to accept the tournament win as proposed by England.

I passed out flyers for DipCon and DixieCon at Orocon. Everyone seemed fascinated by the idea of going to Chapel Hill, but money may stand in the way (as it will for me -- unless I win the Lottery between now and then).

I cannot possibly overstate the truth of this statement: DipCon will be fun, and everyone who can, ought to come out. I'm sure we'll get 50-75 players from the L.A. area alone. I'm going to try to organize a team entry -- it sounds like a fun idea. For those of you who have yet to meet Larry Peery (the host and also editor of Diplomacy World) -- the man is fascinating. He has met more famous and influential people than you can read about in a year's worth of Newsweek or Time. He plays an unfathomable style of Dip, and has a good time doing it. If any of you are wavering, call me (collect) or write -- I'll answer any of your questions/concerns.

I've got a new computer game, Wayne Gretzky Hockey. As a recent convert to the sport of about two years, I am very pleased with this game. The graphics are great, the action is good -- particularly the digitized fight scenes and the instant replay mode. Overall, this game is a similar treatment of hockey as Earl Weaver Baseball was of the American pasttime.

Hockey prediction: the Kings will defeat both Edmonton and (gasp!) Calgary to reach the semi-finals of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

College basketball: the winner of the West regional will take it all (I'm pulling for the Hoosiers). Of course, now that the Final Four are set (yes, the damn desktop program has delayed me that long), I like Duke -- I'm flexible!

Tim Minnig has forced me to identify him as the second place winner in the Dip tourney at Orocon. He's turned into an outstanding mediocre player.

On BOP, David Hood suggests that it's much easier to succeed as the Soviet player.

On other games, played my first game of Kremlin at the Con. It's a great deal of fun. We only played the basic game, as none of us had any

BENEDICT ARNOLD 87AP SUPPLY CENTERS

Austria: Home, Bul, Ser, RUM, CON = 7, build two  
England: Home, NWY = 4, build one  
France: Home, Bel, Por, Spa = 6, even  
Germany: Home, Hol, Den, SWE = 6, build one  
Italy: Home, Gre, Tun = 5, even  
Russia: Home, Rum, Nwy, Swe = 4, remove three  
Turkey: Smy, Ank, Con = 2, remove one

SIR OMAR 87E SUPPLY CENTERS

England: Home, Bel, Bre, Par, Nwy = 7  
France: Por = 1  
Germany: Home, Den, Hol, Stp, Swe = 7  
Italy: Home, Bud, Bul, Gre, Mar, Rum, Ser, Tri, Tun, Vie, Spa, Sev = 14  
Russia: War, Mos = 2  
Turkey: Home = 3

**DEADLINES:** For both games will be April 30, 1989 at 1200 PST. I  
really do appreciate your help--mail early and often!

**DRAGNET--THE ADDRESS LIST**

Larry Botimer 13833 11th St. #2, Bellevue, WA 98005  
John Crosby 9031 Cardiff Rd., Richmond, VA 23255  
Ted Davis 10 Walker Dr., Bloomington, IL 61701  
John Daly 2650 Organ Church Rd, Rockwell, NC 28138  
Scott Fisher 125 St. Paul St. #430, Rochester, NY 14604  
Bob Greir 35171 Gromley Rd, Salem OH 44460  
Mike Gonsalves 1401 Haven Rd, Hagerstown, MD 21740  
Steve Heinowski 51500 Portman Rd, RD 2, Amherst, OH 44001  
Melinda Ann Holley Box 2793, Huntington, WV 25727  
David Hood 604 Tinkerbelle Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
or is it 15-f Estes Park, Carrboro, NC 27510  
Chris Kremer 1412 Poinsett Dr., Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
Bruce Linsey P.O. Box 1334, Albany, NY 12201 \*\*\*\*\*COA!!!!!!+  
Vince Lutterbie 21 Paulina, Hannibal MO, 63401  
Tim Minnig 817 Summit Dr., South Pasadena, CA 91030+  
Larry Peery Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102-0416  
Mike Smolik PO Box 20745, St Petersburg, FL 33742-0745 ++  
Jimmy Williams 2352 Le Havre Rd., Lexington, KY 40504+  
Brad Wilson Box 126, Wayne, PA 19087

THIS IS  
ALL THAT  
WOULD PRINT



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experience with it. It's a challenging game, with a lot of fun and just a bit o' luck involved. A hint: don't underestimate the KGB. Last week, I got my first win in an 1830 game against some expert opponents, in spite of the fact that I had to spend \$660 out of my pocket to buy a diesel for my railroad: the B&O. The key was stock value -- I had \$1200 more in stock than anyone else. I don't begin to claim competency in this game, but I do know that my opponents have played this thing at least twice a week for two years and are still trying out new strategies. If there's a game that can compete with Dip, this is it.

It's Runestone Poll time again. All the controversy of the past few years doesn't mean a whole lot to me. Vote if you want, otherwise don't vote. Vote on my 'zine if you want...I can take the beating--I deserve it. The good thing is that I know your opinion will be substantially different a year from now. If there's not a form included, it was for postage reasons.

87AP BENEDICT ARNOLD  
F '07

Aus (Kremer): A BUD S A Rum, A SER S A Rum, F Bul-CON, A SIL-Gal, A RUM H (unordered).  
Eng (Crosby): F NWG ret Edi, A LPL S F Edi, F EDI H, F Nwy H  
Fra (Hood): F Spa-MID, A BEL-Ruh, A BUR S A Bre-Bel, A BRE-Bel, F ENG C A Bre-Bel, F Iri-NAT  
Ger (Botimer): A Ber-SIL, A MUN S A Ber-Sil, A HOL-Ruh, F Den-SWE, F NTH S F Cly-Edi  
Ita (Gonsalves): A TYL H, A GRE H, F Tyh-ION, F EAS-Smy, F AEG S F Bul(sc)-Con  
Rus (Holley): A GAL-Rum, A UKR S A Gal-Rum, F SEV S A Gal-Rum, A WAR S A Ber-Sil, F Bar-STP(nat), F CLY-Edi, F NWG-Nwy  
Tur (Minnig): A Con-Bul (d,ann), A ANK S F Smy, F SMY H

GAMENOTES: Would John Daly please takeover the French position (which David never wanted in the first place--he was just trying to keep the game moving)?

87E Sir Omar  
W '07/S '08

Ger (Williams): Build A Kie. A SIL S A Mun, A IER S A Mun, A MUN S A Sil, A Stp-LVN, F Hel-DEN, F BAL C A Kie-PRU, A Kie-PRU  
Eng (Fisher): Build F Lpl. A Spa r to Gas, F Lpl-IRI, F BRE-MAD, F ENG S A Bre-MAD, A GAS S A Bur-Mar, A BUR-Mar, F Bel-NTH, F Nth-NWG  
Fra (Lutterbie): F POR S F Naf-Mid  
Tur (Linsey): A Con-SMY, A ARM S A Con-Smy, F Bla-CON  
Ita (Hood): Build A Ven. A Ven-PIE, A MAR S A Spa, A SPA S A Mar, F Mid-NAT, F WES S F Naf-Mid, F Naf-MID, A TYL S A Boh, A BOH S A Gal-Sil, A Gal-SIL, A RUM S A Ser-Bul, A Ser-BUL, A SEV S A Mos, F Bul(sc)-AEG, F Aeg-EAS  
Rus (Crosby): A War-UKR, A MOS S A War-Ukr

# PRESS

Germany to World: "Early to stab and early to agrandize, makes a power healthy, wealthy and bigger in size" -- Benjamin Franklin Calhauer  
GM to Germany: Looks like one of your opponents is familiar with the concept!

**THIS TIME PULL**

- |   |                         |   |                          |
|---|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| — | Abattoir                | — | Flint Hellus             |
| — | Acorn                   | — | Fol Si File              |
| — | Alpha & Omega           | — | Probeze                  |
| — | The Appalachian Gensrel | — | The Gnar's Zine (CT)     |
| — | The Archair Diplomat    | — | Get Tha Do'n Yow!        |
| — | Benzene                 | — | Crunstark                |
| — | Boant                   | — | Haghill Hazarel          |
| — | The Boob Report         | — | Rail Jizai'              |
| — | Bushvacker              | — | Mnasard                  |
| — | The Buzzard's Breath    | — | The Hose Office          |
| — | The Canadian Dipmat     | — | House of Lords           |
| — | Carolin CuckCoonsentry  | — | In Search of Pink Nove   |
| — | Cathy's Rabilance       | — | Kaisza                   |
| — | Chesecnte               | — | Kath's Kormer            |
| — | Climdestine Activities  | — | Known Case Openings      |
| — | Coarude in Area         | — | KOO Zine Directory       |
| — | Costagna                | — | The Last Resort          |
| — | Courtemsurea            | — | Life of Aonty            |
| — | Green Riflee            | — | Loose Caboose            |
| — | Dart Mirror             | — | Lord of the Boards       |
| — | Dipweddodah!            | — | Lord of Hosts            |
| — | Diplomacy Direct        | — | The Megdiplomat          |
| — | Diplomacy Today         | — | The Messenger            |
| — | Diplomacy World         | — | Mundip                   |
| — | Diplomacy World Nove    | — | Nevs.fros Evee           |
| — | Diplomag                | — | No Name Flyer            |
| — | Diplomatic Contrabed    | — | North South V. George    |
| — | The Diplomatic Rag      | — | Pin Shar Ga Cib Reallter |
| — | Dippy (Jin Benen' also) | — | Northern Flame           |
| — | Minawae City            | — | Not New York             |
| — | Dreagnet                | — | Not Up to Modern C.S.    |
| — | Everything              | — | Ocho Acres               |
| — | Encolider               | — | Ouiniquim                |
| — | Sweetest City Balletd   | — | Panchendaele             |
| — | Familienent's Forum     | — | Pencil Dip               |

(TAT or PERSONAL AT OUR OFFICE)

INSTRUCTIONS: You may rate any material publication related to the Diplomacy hobby of which you have seen at least two issues since August 1, 1989 (or should have seen had the time been on time). Rate each line on a scale of 0 (the plate) to 10 (outstanding). No fractions, please. Do not rate your own publication. Please rate North American zines only, though readers living outside North America are welcome to participate.

Send this ballot to: Bruce Linsey, P.O. Box 1334, Albany, NY 12201 (USA)  
 att: Sec. 8

or: Eric Brosius, 41 Hayward Street, Milford, MA 01757 (USA)  
Deadline will be about the end of June (probably), but please vote early.

TO GET THE POLL RESULTS: For main lists only (since, sublease, and Cite), check this space      and enclose 50¢.

To get The Green Shall Rise!, check this space        and please enclose a  
 donation of \$3.00 or more. (See my blatant self-plug in the bottom right...)

Indicate one way in which you participate in the North American Diplomacy hobby (sub to class XXX, play in game 1988YY, etc.)

## Silence

Print your name neatly \_\_\_\_\_

**THE 52ND ANNUAL POLL**

- |   |                         |   |   |   |                          |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| — | The Abyssinian Prince   | — | The Grand Blazze                                    | — | The President's Brain... |
| — | Amazon                  | — | High Inertile                                       | — | Seal-Innert Repiny       |
| — | At Your Service         | — | Karmel's Panorama                                   | — | Shadowplay               |
| — | Atrocitiy Exhibition    | — | Aucus   | — | Standard Deviation       |
| — | Backstretch             | — | Meeting of Minds                                    | — | Submarine Warfare        |
| — | Been There. Done That   | — | The Mainibone Herald                                | — | Subutthomase             |
| — | The Blind Jars          | — | Moira   | — | Thush in Ear             |
| — | CDO News                | — | The New Utopia                                      | — | (Time) Lording It        |
| — | Errata                  | — | Notes fro the Bunier                                | — | The 12th Fleet           |
| — | Extrelian in Defense... | — | OPERABLE  | — | The Whipping Post        |
| — | The First Vegetator     | — | Out to Pasture                                      | — |                          |
| — | Foot in Mouth           | — | The Pocket General                                  | — |                          |
| — | Fruap                   | — | The Popular Front                                   | — |                          |
|   |                         |   | (Blank space for any I may have neglected to list.) |   |                          |

INSTRUCTIONS: The same as for the Zine Poll -- 0 to 10 scale, do not rate your own publication, etc.

**THE CM POLL**

Please list CAs alphabetically by surname, going down the columns. Diplomatic CAs only!

[illegible]

**INSTRUCTIONS:** You may rate any Diplomacy GM in whose postal game(s) you were a player at any time after August 1, 1998, and under whose you played for long enough to make a subjective assessment of his or her competence as a GM. Gamemasters may not rate themselves. Rate each GM by name, not by sign.

Again, the rating scale is from 0 (the pits) to 10 (outstanding). No fractions, please. Rate North American GMs only, though any players living outside North America are welcome to participate.

## CONTEST

the prize this year is a free year's subscription to a sine of the winner's choice, or \$5.00 cash. If you'd like to enter, fill out the following (print neatly):

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

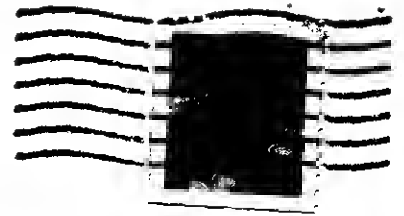
time I predict will win the 1989 Runestone Poll is

## 11

1. You must vote in the Poll and correctly guess the winning nine to be eligible for the prize.
2. The winner will be selected randomly from among all eligible entrants.
3. The winner's name will be published in The Gleaner.
4. The pollster and his assistant are not eligible to win.
5. The winner will be notified and allowed, at his or her discretion, to choose a subscription or the cash prize.

PLEASE BUT THE GREEN SHALL RISE! FOR \$3.00 --- THIS POLL DEPENDS ON YOUR DONATIONS, AND THE ZINE WILL BE PRETTY DARNED PASCINATING -- ARTICLES ON THE NOBBY, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS, THE WORKS!!!

on results  
nd = Tim Mianig  
nd = Nick Beliaeff  
more inside!



Larry Peery  
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